Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /064 W

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R 061450Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3465
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD
ESD HANSCOM AFB MA
ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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SECDEF FOR ODDR&E/IP/TWP, OASD/ISA/I&L. SECSTATE FOR EUR/RPM. CSAF FOR ATF/RDPW. OSAF FOR SAFRD. AFSC FOR SD. ESD FOR YWT. USCINCEUR FOR J-5. EMBASSY THE HAGUE, RADLO PASS TO MIRMAN.

E.O.11652: GDS

JCS WASHDC CSAF WASHDC OSAF WASHDC

TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI, AWACS SUBJECT; NATO AEW - MAY 4 NADREPS' MEETING REF; A. USNATO 2729 DTG 051304Z MAY 77. B. USNATO 2558 DTG 291900Z APR 77. C. STATE 100239 DTG 032332Z MAY 77. D. USNATO 2366 DTG 230730Z APR 77. E. STATE 88853 DTG 201843Z APR 77.

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SUMMARY: ASYG LABERGE EXPLAINED TO NADREPS THAT SYG LUNS WILL SEND THE PROGRESS REPORT ON NATO AEW TO DEFENSE MINISTERS AS A PO. THE CANADIAN REP PUSHED FOR A MORE DEFINITIVE TIME SCHEDULE OF FUTURE ACTIONS. LABERGE SAID HIS GUIDANCE FROM LUNS WOULD NOT ALLOW HIM TO PROPOSE A MORE SPECIFIC SCHEDULE; HOWEVER, HE WOULD PASS THE CANADIAN CONCERN TO LUNS. LABERGE ASKED DELEGATIONS TO WRITE

THE UK PERMREP REQUESTING THAT AIR COMMODORE SCRIMGEOUR BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AS PROGRAM MANAGER. END SUMMARY.

- 1. ON MAY 4, NADREPS MET WITH ASYG (DEFENSE SUPPORT)
 LABERGE TO DISCUSS THE REPORT TO DEFENSE MINISTERS ON
 NATO AEW. LABERGE EXPLAINED THAT AS A RESULT OF THE
 EARLIER NAC/DPC DISCUSSION OF THE SAME SUBJECT (REF A),
 SYG LUNS WOULD FORWARD THE REPORT TO DEFENSE MINISTERS AS
 HIS OWN PERSONAL PO. SINCE IT WILL BE A PO, NATIONS COULD
 OFFER SUGGESTIONS AS TO ITS CONTENT; HOWEVER, THE FINAL
 DECISION ON THE TEXT WOULD BE MADE BY THE SYG.
- 2. LABERGE THEN OUTLINED THE DRAFT HE WOULD WRITE FOR THE SYG'S CONSIDERATION. IT WILL BE BASED ON C-M(77)35 (REF B); HOWEVER, PARAS 8 AND 9 WOULD BE DELETED FROM THE ANNEX, AND PARA 9, RECOMMENDATIONS, WILL BE ADDED TO THE COVER LETTER AS PARA 5. IN ADDITION, LABERGE PLANS TO INCLUDE A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING AND THE RATIONALE FOR ABANDONING THE JULY 1 TARGET DATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUEST OF THE CANADIAN PERMREP AT THE NAC (REF A). THE TEXT OF LABERGE'S PROPOSED WORDING FOLLOWS. BEGIN TEXT. WITH RESPECT TO THE SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS, THE SEQUENCE OUTLINED IN PARA 7 OF THE ANNEX MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES HAVE SUGGESTED TO ME THAT IT IS NOT

APPROPRIATE TO FIX A FIRM DATE FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION UNTIL WE HAVE PROGRESSED THROUGH A FEW OF THESE STAGES. HOWEVER, KNOWING THE AMOUNT OF WORK TO BE DONE AND THE TIME NECESSARY FOR CONSIDERATION OF A REVISED CONFIDENTIAL

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PROPOSAL, I DO NOT BELIEVE THE DATE OF 1 JULY FOR MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT SET ON 25TH MARCH, 1977 IS ANY LONGER REALISTIC. END TEXT.

3. THE CANADIAN REP REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN THAT SPECIFIC TARGET DATES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AS A MANAGEMENT TOOL. HE SAID THAT, DUE TO INCREASED OVERHEAD AND OTHER COSTS, EACH MONTH OF DELAY WILL COST NATO AN ADDITIONAL \$10 MILLION. LABERGE SAID THE SYG HAD DIRECTED HIM NOT TO PROPOSE SPECIFIC MILESTONE DATES FOR FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES, EXCEPT FOR PRELIMINARY ANALYSES WHICH ARE DUE EARLY IN MAY. THE SYG'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE BASED ON HIS INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH SOME PERMREPS AT WEEKLY LUNCHEONS AND OTHER MEETINGS, BUT LABERGE SAID HE WOULD RELAY THE CANADIAN CONCERN TO LUNS. THE US REP PROPOSED THAT THE SENSE OF URGENCY COULD BE ADDED TO THE PAPER BY INCLUD-ING AN ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATION FOR MINISTERS' CONSIDERA-TION AS SUGGESTED REF C. LABERGE ACCEPTED THIS AND OTHER US PROPOSED CHANGES (REF C), SAYING THAT HE WOULD GIVE THEM FULL CONSIDERATION.

4. ON THE POINT OF TIMING, THE NORWEGIAN REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT ANY NEW TIME SCHEDULE SHOULD BE WELL THOUGHT OUT AND REASONABLE; IT SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE TIMING OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES. THE NETHERLANDS AND NORWEGIAN REPS ASKED LABERGE TO INCLUDE IN THE PAPER SOME DISCUSSION OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES AND OF THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE NAPO. LABERGE SAID THE AC/259(HLG) ON NATO AEW WOULD DISCUSS FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AT ITS

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MEETING ON MAY 5; HE WOULD PROPOSE THAT SOME INFORMATION BE ADDED TO THE REPORT TO MINISTERS BASED ON THOSE DISCUSSIONS.

5. ON QUESTION OF NAPO MANNING, LABERGE CALLED NAD-REPS' ATTENTION TO UK AMBASSADOR KILLICK'S APRIL 21 LETTER TO ACTING SYG PANSA (REF D), WHICH SAID, INTER ALIA, THAT THE UK WOULD BE READY TO LEAVE MOST OF THE BRITISH STAFF ON LOAN TO THE NAPO IN POST FOR THE TIME BEING TO INSURE CONTINUITY IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. LABERGE SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DELEGATIONS COULD WRITE TO KILLICK REQUESTING THE UK TO ALLOW THE PROGRAM MANAGER, AIR COMMODORE SCRIMGEOUR, TO CONTINUE IN HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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PRESENT POSITION UNTIL THE ISSUE IS DECIDED BY MINISTERS. COMMENT: SCRIMGEOUR HAS BEEN A VERY EFFECTIVE PROGRAM MANAGER. FOR REASONS OF CONTINUITY WE AGREE THAT THE PROGRAM WOULD PROBABLY NOT BENEFIT FROM A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP AT THIS TIME OR IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WHILE THE FRG DELEGATION DOES NOT YET HAVE A FORMAL POSITION ON THIS MATTER, OUR GERMAN CONTACTS TELL US INFORMALLY THAT THE FRG WOULD PROBABLY AGREE TO HAVE SCRIMGEOUR STAY ON. END COMMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: IN LIGHT OF LABERGE'S SUGGESTION AND THE PREVIOUS WASHINGTON APPROACH TO LONDON (REF E), REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON WHETHER WE SHOULD WRITE TO KILLICK ON THIS SUBJECT. BENNETT

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